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77 SEOUL 7664

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ACTION EA-12
INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAF-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 JUSF-00 SEP/073 NSC STATE A/CDC/MR
-----------043355 100513Z /10

REVIEWED BY BAFLack DATE 2/12/80

P R 100453Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6310
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC
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CINCPAC FOR POLAD
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOP, PINT, KS
SUBJECT: KOREAN PRESS REPORTS PAK TONG-SON'S SECOND INTERROGATION
REF: SEOUL 7152 (P R 250845Z AUG 77)
SUMMARY: PAK TONG-SON WAS QUESTIONED BY SEOUL PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE A SECOND TIME YESTERDAY. HIGHLIHGTS GIVEN. UPI WIRE SERVICE REPORT HE WAS SUMMONED AGAIN TODAY (SEPTEMBER 10) END SUMMARY.
1. KOREAN VERNACULAR PRESS ON AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 9 AND MORNING SEPT 10 REPORTED ON PAK TONG-SON'S SECOND INTERROGATION BY SEOUL DISTRICT PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE AND INTERVIEW HE GAVE TO DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN REPORTERS AFTERWARD. (FIRST INTERROGATION OCCURRED AUGUST 24.) MORNING PAPERS RAN LENGTHY ARTICLES WITH PICTURE AND SUMMARY OF REPORTERS' QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON PAGE SEVEN (PAGE FOR ARTICLES ON CRIMES AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS).
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ACCORDING TO STORIES, PAK WAS SUMMONED TO PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE IN MORNING AND QUESTIONED FOR ABOUT TWO AND ONE-HALF HOURS ON 36-COUNT INDICTMENT RECENTLY HANDED DOWN IN WASHINGTON. CHOSON ILBO REPORTED PAK WAS SAID TO HAVE DENIED ALL CHARGES.
2. AFTERWARDS, PAK WAS INTERVIEWED IN LOBBY AND ON FRONT STEPS OF PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE BY UPWARDS OF 70 KOREAN AND FOREIGN REPORTERS FOR ABOUT 30 MINUTES, STORIES SAY. HIGHLIGHTS OF HIS REPORTED REMARKS FOLLOW:
A) CONTENTS OF TODAYS INVESTIGATION?
CUSTOMARY INVESTIGATION ON U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE'S INDICTMENT AND ALSO MY RELATION WITH SPEAKER O'NEILL. I THINK I WILL BE CALLED IN AGAIN.
B) YOUR RELATION WITH O'NEILL?
SOCIAL AND PRIVATE; REPORTS AS TO ANYTHING ELSE ARE FALSE.
C) YOUR IMPRESSIONS OF TODAY'S INTERROGATION?
IMPRESSIVE. I CAN RECOVER MY REPUTATION THIS WAY. I WILL COOPERATE FULLY.
D) IMPRESSIONS OF THE INDICTMENT?
LEARNED OF IT TODAY FROM THE QUESTIONING: SURPRISING, UNFAIR.
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DISAPPOINTING, THERE IS NO PROOF.
E) HAVE YOU RECEIVED ANY PRESSURE FROM ROKG OR U.S. OFFICIALS?
I AM A FREE CITIZEN, KOREA A FREE COUNTRY. HUMAN RIGHTS
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ARE PROTECTED HERE.
F) HAS ROKG URGED YOU TO GO TO U.S.?
MY ACTIVITIES IN WASHINGTON HAD NO RELATION TO ROKG. I WILL
DECIDE WHETHER TO RETURN OR NOT.
G) WHAT IF YOU ARE INDICTED IN KOREA?
I WELCOME ANY INVESTIGATION; I CONSIDER IT THE WAY TO RECOVER
MY HONR AND THAT OF THOSE AROUND ME.
H) ANY THOUGH OF RETURNING TO THE U.S.?
MY U.S. LAWYER SAYS THERE'S NO NEED TO. AS LONG AS EMOTIONAL
ATMOSPHERE ON PART OF CERTAIN SECTORS OF U.S. PRESS CONTINUES.
I HAVE NO PLANS TO DO SO.
I) ANY THOUGHTS ON ATMOSPHERE IN U.S.?
I STILL TRUST U.S. PEOPLE AND BELIEVE JUSTICE SURVIVES.
U.S. WILL SOMEDAY REVEAL TRUTH OF MY CASE.
3. USIS REPORTS UPI HAS TRANSMITTED A STORY SEPTEMBER 10
SAYING PAK WAS SUMMONED TO PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE AGAIN TODAY.
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